

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of the pending claims. However, to better claim embodiments of the invention, former claims 1 through 24 were cancelled and replaced by new claims 25 and 26. No new matter is added.

Before addressing the unique elements of claims 25 and 26, Applicants note that their method of unlocking content relates to a storage medium having both a mastered pre-recorded area and a writeable area as discussed, for example, on page 22, lines 8 through 19. As discussed, for example, on page 13, lines 9 through 10; and page 44, lines 11 through 15 a key complement is required to complete the decryption keys (these keys may be denoted as a content key) that decrypt the locked file. Because the full set of decryption keys then are on the storage medium, the file is unlocked. Advantageously, consumer expectation of ownership of content is satisfied because the digital rights management flows with the storage medium – a consumer may take the unlocked disk from player to player as they would with conventional audio CDs or DVDs.

Claim 25 reflects these advantageous properties. In sharp contrast, the cited prior art to Ginter (US 2002/0112171) neither discloses or suggests a storage medium having mastered pre-written content and a writeable area, let alone the advantageous DRM method that may be applied to such a medium as recited in claim 25. Thus, claim 25 is patentable over the cited prior art.

Claim 26 reflects the host authentication procedure as discussed with regard to Applicants' Figure 6. No new matter is added. Because claim 26 depends upon claim 25, it is patentable over the prior art for at least the same reasons.

The specification has been amended as requested by the Examiner to include the missing serial numbers.

CONCLUSION

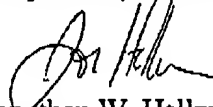
For the above reasons, pending Claims 25 and 26 are in condition for allowance and allowance of the application is hereby solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (949) 752-7040 is welcomed and encouraged.

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September 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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